

App. No. 10/768,035
Amendment Dated: October 12, 2006
Reply to Office Action of July 13, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed July 13, 2006 rejected claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Grossman et al. (hereinafter Grossman) (U.S. PG Pub No. 2004/0119760). Claims 1, 10 and 18 have been amended. No new matter has been added. The Applicants respectfully disagree and present the following for consideration.

Claim Rejections

Claims 10-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In response, the Applicants have amended Claim 10 to recite "computer-readable storage medium."

Claims 1-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(e) as being anticipated by Grossman et al. (hereinafter Grossman) (U.S. PG Pub No. 2004/0119760).

With respect to Claim 1, the Office Action recites that Grossman discloses "searching information within each of the accessed contacts to locate relevant contacts that include the search input, wherein the information that may be searched includes any information contained within the contact" as in particular, the search pane 440 may be used to enter a key term that may comprise part of a name, an address, or an attribute that can be used to search for desired contact information. For example, by typing the name "Jane," one or more of the contact information directories is searched for contact information corresponding with the name "Jane." As shown in the present embodiment, various Jane contacts from the My Contacts directory and the XYZ

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Corporation directory are displayed (Grossman Paragraph 0054 & Figure 4).” The Applicants have amended the Independent Claims to further the prosecution of this matter.

As amended, Claim 1 recites “obtaining a search input from an input field to locate a contact; wherein the search input is a single character;” and “monitoring the input field to determine when a new search input is entered and automatically updating the contacts in response to the new search input.”

In contrast, Grossman discloses entering a key term within a search pane and then selecting a button (See Figure 4) to filter the results. This is different from “monitoring the input field to determine when a new search input is entered and automatically updating the contacts in response to the new search input.” In Claim 1, the input field is monitored and the contacts are automatically updated without requiring a user to select a filter button. As discussed above, Grossman requires a user to start the search of the contacts. Therefore, the Applicants submit that Claim 1 is allowable over the cited reference.

Independent Claim 10 has been similarly amended and is proposed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as presented above with regard to Claim 1.

Independent Claim 18 has been similarly amended and recites in part “monitoring the input device to determine when a new search input is entered and automatically updating the display of the unified contacts in response to the new search input.” As discussed above, Grossman does not disclose monitoring the input device and automatically updating the display in response to a new search input without first requiring the user to select a button to search.

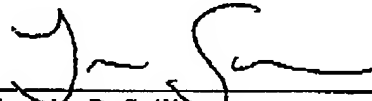
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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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